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# Turfgrass Cultivars for Utah

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The turfgrass seed that may be purchased from a reputable garden center or nursery will usually fit the needs of most Utah lawns. When making such a purchase, look for a quality mixture of named turfgrass varieties. While there are differences among the varieties, most will be fine-textured, dark green, and adapted to Utah environments. Some varieties to avoid, however, are annual ryegrass, 'K-31' or 'Kentucky 31' tall fescue, and 'Linn' perennial ryegrass. If you are interested in specific cultivars of turfgrasses, these guidelines will help you in making your choices.



There are many cultivars of turfgrasses available each year and this large number can be very confusing. This guide is designed to help you decide which cultivars to use from those that have performed well in Utah. When choosing a turfgrass, consider the environmental aspects of where you plan to establish the turf and the cultural techniques that you will use to manage the turfgrass. Then choose the appropriate grass for your situation.

You may consult your local phone directory to find suppliers of seed and sod. Remember that availability is sometimes a problem, and you may not be able to find your first choices very easily. Packaged seed mixtures should list the species and cultivars that they contain. If you are unable to find pre-packaged seed for the cultivars you desire, you may choose to contact the suppliers listed at the end of this document.

**Kentucky bluegrass** is best suited to lawns that will have a lot of traffic and full sun to partial shade. Kentucky bluegrass recovers well from frequent use.

**Med.-High Input Cultivars** (4 lb. N/1000 sq. ft., mowed at 0.5-2.5", irrigated)

Blacksburg, Glade, Arcadia, SR 2109, Total Eclipse, Impact, North Star, ZPS-2183 (experimental), Pick, Moonlight, Award and Princeton 105

**Low Input Cultivars** (2 lb. N/1000 sq. ft., mowed at 3.0-3.5", minimal to no irrigation) Baron, MTT 683, Baruzo, Bariris, Eagleton, Lipoa, North Star, Everglade, Bluestone, Liberator

**Tall Fescue** is also a good general purpose turfgrass for Utah. It often has greater heat tolerance and can tolerate more shade than Kentucky bluegrass. It also requires somewhat less irrigation. While older varieties were coarse in texture, most tall fescue varieties available today look very much like Kentucky bluegrass.

Lion, Marksman, Anthem II, Plantation, Dominion, Coronado, Davinci, Pure Gold, Justice, Regiment II

**Fine leaf fescue** is ideal for shady lawns and is very drought tolerant.

Scaldis II, 4001, Seabreeze, Longfellow II, Intrigue, Culombra, Attila E, Longfellow II, Berkshire, Jasper II, Oxford, Viking, Ambassador, SRX 52961, Nordic

**Perennial ryegrass** is often mixed with Kentucky bluegrass for quick establishment, diversity, and color.  
Mach 1, Arrival, Amazing, Kokomo, IQ, Gallery, Gator 3, Seville II, Divine, Cruiser, Pizzaz, Applaud

### Other Turfgrasses

Buffalograsses - Texoka, Cody, Bison, Sharps Improved, Legacy (vegetative), 609, Bowie (seed)

Wheatgrasses - RoadCrest, Fairway, Ephraim

The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP), sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture and the National Turfgrass Federation, Inc., coordinates and develops evaluation trials of promising new turfgrass varieties. We are privileged here in Utah to participate in the NTEP program and to have local data regarding new turfgrass varieties. The NTEP is an ongoing program that continually coordinates evaluation trials for new turfgrass cultivars. Because new turfgrass cultivars are being developed all the time, these recommendations may change as new results become available and this publication will be updated. You may choose to access the NTEP results directly on the world wide web at [www.ntep.org](http://www.ntep.org).

#### Turfgrass Seed Suppliers\*

Granite Seed

1697 West 2100 North

Lehi, UT 84043

(801) 768-4422

Great Basin Turf Products

1815 West Gentile Street

Layton, UT 84041

(801) 546-1147

Mountain Valley Seeds

1800 South West Temple, #600

Salt Lake City, UT 84115

(801) 486-0480

Oasis Seed Cooperative

2730 West 4000 South

Oasis, UT 84650

(435) 864-3614

Steve Regan Company

4215 South 500 West

Murray, UT 84123

(801) 268-4500

Wheatland Seed Company

14585 North Highway 38

Deweyville, UT 84309

(435) 458-2249

\*These lists are not completely inclusive and should only be used as a guide.

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